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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 May 2009*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,5-17,20-31,33-35 and 53-61* is/are pending in the application.
   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1,5-17,20-31,33-35 and 53-61* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This action is responsive to an Amendment filed 5/18/2009. Claims **1, 5-17, 20-31, 33-35, 53-61** are pending. Claims **1, 7, 8, 12, 13, 17, 21, 26-31, 33-35, 53, 55-57, 59** are amended.

Claims **2-4, 18, 19, 32, 36** are canceled. Claims **37-52** are withdrawn. Claim **61** is new. The

examiner hereby withdraws the objections to claims **28, 29, 34, 53, 56** in light of the

amendments.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments regarding the newly added limitations directed towards displaying

the beginning time below a left-most end of the display bar, displaying the program terminating

time below a right-most end of the display bar, and displaying the current time below the display

bar at a position corresponding to the program progress time, filed 5/18/2009, have been

considered, but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3.   Applicant's arguments regarding numerical start and finish times, displaying the time

information and display bar transiently, moving the current time relative to the display bar, and

the combination of Young and Ellis et al., filed 5/18/2009, have been fully considered, but they

are not persuasive.

Regarding the limitations directed towards numerical start and finish times in the vicinity

of the time bar, Applicant argues that Young does not teach numerical start and finish times in

the vicinity of the time bar. The examiner respectfully disagrees. The applicant specifically

argues that, rather than numerical start and finish times, Young teaches an 'S' and 'F.' The

examiner notes; however, that Young discloses that time bar 72 is a percentage calibrated time

bar indicating elapsed time, and is bracketed by S for start and F for finish (col. 10, l. 32-35).

Since the time bar 72 of Young is indicative of the percentage of the program that has elapsed,

the end of the bar bracketed by S corresponds to 0%, while the end of the bar bracketed by F

corresponds to 100%. As such, the examiner interprets these to be numerical start and finish

times, as currently claimed.

Regarding the limitations directed towards displaying the time information and display

bar transiently, Applicant argues that claim 1 recites that the time information and the display bar

are displayed for a predetermined time when the user issues the display command set in said

setting the command and disappear after said predetermined time has elapsed and that the time

bar 72 of Young is not transient. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Young discloses that

program notes including elapsed time bar 72 are displayed when channel grazing when a user

presses the Select key when viewing a grazing title (col. 10, l. 32 & Fig. 11). The information is

displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11). The examiner interprets this as

displaying the bar transiently for a predetermined time, because the system will display the bar

until the time at which the user presses Select again, at which time it will no longer be displayed

(see Fig. 11). Young also discloses that the grazing titles pop ups disappear from the screen after

two seconds (col. 27, l. 34-38). This also meets the limitation of displaying the time information

and the display bar transiently for a predetermined time when the user issues the display

command set in said setting the command and causing it to disappear after said predetermined

time has elapsed, as currently claimed.

Regarding the limitations of claim 61 directed towards moving the current time relative to the display bar according to the program progress time, the applicant argues that Young teaches that the current time is stationary. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Young discloses that time bar 72 is a percentage calibrated time bar indicating elapsed time of a program (col. 10, l. 32-35 & Fig. 10). Current time in the bar is indicated by a vertical bar within the time bar. The examiner notes that, in order to indicate elapsed time of the program, the vertical bar must move according to program progress time. As such, the examiner maintains that time bar 72 of Young meets the limitation, as currently claimed. The examiner acknowledges Applicant's argument regarding the time 11:00 and that claim 1 requires that the time information be in numerical format; however, as noted above, the examiner interprets the time bar 72 of Young to be displayed in numerical format, as currently claimed.

Regarding the combination of Young and Ellis et al., the applicant argues that there would have been no motivation to combine Young and Ellis et al. as set forth by the examiner. The applicant specifically argues that the problem addressed in Young is the difficulty of setting a VCR for automatic recording at a future date, while Ellis et al. identifies the problem of electronic systems being cumbersome to use. Ellis et al. introduces a "scan" feature to the EPG. Applicant argues that, if Young were modified according to the teachings of Ellis et al., the result would have been a scheduling guide for recording future programming which scans. The examiner respectfully disagrees. The examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art.

See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347,

21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Young teaches a system and method that

displays program information about programs as they are being watched. This includes program

title, station, channel, elapsed time, etc. (Fig. 10). Young calls switching channels and viewing

the various program information channel grazing (col. 10, l. 21). Ellis et al. also teaches a

system and method that displays program information about programs as they are being watched

(col. 13, l. 20-33 & Figs. 7, 8, 8A). Ellis et al. discloses that, when displaying information about

a program currently being watched, a user can press a right direction arrow to display future

schedule information for the particular channel (col. 13, l. 20-33). Ellis et al. further discloses a

REMINDER system, where a user may select this future program for reminder, and receive a

reminder message at some predetermined time prior to the program starting (col. 13, l. 54-67;

col. 14, l. 1-26 & Figs. 9A, 9B). The examiner finds that the systems and methods of Young and

Ellis et al. are similar and that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was

made would have recognized the ability to modify Young in view of Ellis et al. as described in

the Office Action below. Ellis et al. also states that there is a need in electronic program guides

for creating a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on the

television receiver (col. 1, l. 53-56). As such, the examiner maintains that one of ordinary skill

in the art would have been motivated to modify Young in view of Ellis et al. as described in the

Office Action below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed
in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for
patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an
international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this
subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United
States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5.   Claims **13-17, 20, 23-25, 29, 33, 35, 53-60** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Young.

Referring to claim **13**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) in a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information

containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), comprising:

-   receiving and storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item

    232)(col. 17, l. 37-44 & Fig. 22A);

-   displaying a program terminating time of the currently viewed program (item 72 is a

    percentage calibrated time bar, where F indicates a finishing time (col. 10, l. 20-40 &

    Fig. 10);

-   determining a total program broadcasting time of a currently viewed program by

    subtracting a program beginning time from the program terminating time of the

    currently viewed program when a user issues a command requesting the displaying of

    the program progress time of the currently viewed program (item 72)(user uses a

    Select command to display a program bar representing the duration of the program

    from start to finish)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10);

- determining the program progress time by subtracting the beginning time from a

   current time (time bar is a percentage calibrated time bar and progressed time is

   displayed as a percentage of the total bar)(item 72)(col. 10, l. 27-35 & Fig. 10);

- displaying a display bar representing the total program broadcasting time, including

   the current time (item 72)(Fig. 10); and

- automatically displaying the display bar so as to indicate a position on the display bar

   corresponding to the program progress time at a preset time set by the user (user uses

   a Select command for displaying the information. Progress time is indicated by a

   vertical line within the bar)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10), wherein the program

   terminating time, total program broadcasting time, and display bar are displayed

   transiently for a predetermined time when the user issues the command and disappear

   after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is

   displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have

   expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display the time bar

   until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two seconds

   have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a

   predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Referring to claim **14**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

as claimed in claim 13, further comprising displaying the display bar by distinguishing between a

portion of the program progress time elapsed and a remaining program progress time portion

(time elapsed is represented in gray, while time remaining is represented in white)(item 72)(Fig.

10).

Referring to claim **15**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

as claimed in claim 14, further comprising displaying the program progress time on a portion of

the display bar between a starting position of the display bar and a position corresponding to the

program progress time on the display bar (program progress time is indicated by gray bar

between S and vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **16**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

as claimed in claim 14, comprising displaying the remaining program progress time on a portion

of the display bar between a position corresponding to the program progress time and an end

position of the display bar (remaining time is indicated by white bar between vertical line and

F)(item 72)(Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **17**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) of a currently viewed program of a signal receiver (Fig. 10), the method comprising:

- receiving program guide information including a program schedule having the

    currently viewed program (col. 17, l. 37-44 & Figs. 10, 22A); and

- automatically displaying the program progress time of the currently viewed program

    simultaneously with the currently viewed program in response to a command from a

    user to perform a function other than displaying the program progress time upon

    receipt of the command (user uses a Select command or changes channels for

    displaying items 62, 70)(col. 8, l. 45-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10,

    11, 21), the program progress time including a current time (vertical line in time

    bar)(item 72)(Fig. 10), the command being one of an activating a channel up/down

    key (Fig. 11) and setting of a preset time prior to a program termination of the

currently viewed program (user Select command), wherein the program progress time

is displayed transiently for a predetermined time in response to the command from

the user and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes

that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or

until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to

display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or

until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time

bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig.

11).

Referring to claim **20**, Young discloses the method as claimed in claim 17, further

comprising:

-    generating a setup display (item 62)(col. 10, l. 27-40 & Figs. 10, 11) for the user to

     designate ones of a plurality of commands to function as the command to perform the

     function other than displaying the program progress time upon receipt of the

     command (title note 62 is displayed. If user presses Select, notes are displayed. User

     presses Select command out of plurality of remote control commands)(Fig. 21); and

-    receiving inputs from the user designating the ones of the plurality of the command to

     function as the command to perform the function other than displaying the program

     progress time upon receipt of the command (col. 10, l. 27-40 & Figs. 11, 21).

Referring to claim **23**, Young discloses the method as claimed in claim 17, wherein the

program progress time further includes a program beginning time (S), and a program termination

time (F) of the currently viewed program (item 72)(Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **24**, Young discloses the method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the

program progress time further includes a channel number (CH 2)(item 62), a name of a broadcast

station (KNTV-FOX)(item 62) and a title of the currently viewed program (COSBY

SHOW)(Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **25**, Young discloses the method as claimed in claim 23, wherein said

displaying comprises displaying the program beginning time at a start of a display bar (S), the

program termination time at an end of the display bar (F), and the current time at a position of

the display bar corresponding to a percentage of time elapsed versus a total time of the currently

viewed program (vertical line)(item 72 is a percentage calibrated bar)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig.

10).

Referring to claim **29**, Young discloses a device for displaying a program progress time

(item 72) the program progress time including a current time (Fig. 10), comprising:

- a receiving unit to receive a TV program and a TV program guide containing a

    program schedule which includes information on the TV program (col. 17, l. 37-44 &

    Figs. 10, 22A);

- a user interface to enable entry of a command from a user requesting display of the

    program progress time (col. 10, l. 20-40 & Figs. 10, 11);

- an audio output unit to generate an audio signal of the TV program (col. 8, l. 64);

- a processor to produce On-Screen-Graphic data for displaying the program progress

    time transiently for a predetermined time in response to the command from the user

    and based upon the program schedule (user uses a Select command for displaying the

    information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 11);

- a video output unit to mix video data of the TV program and On-Screen-Graphic data of the TV program, to output a resulting signal (Fig. 10); and

- a display to automatically display the resulting signal wherein the command is one of an activating a channel up/down key and setting of a preset time prior to a program termination of a currently viewed program (channel up/down or Select)(col. 8, l. 46-65; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 21).

Referring to claim **33**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time (item 72) on a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), comprising:

- storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l. 37-44 & Fig. 22A);

- displaying time information about a currently viewed program together with the currently viewed program on the signal receiver when a user issues a display command set (user uses a Select command for displaying the information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 11), the time information including a beginning time (S)(item 72)(Fig. 10), a current time (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10), and a terminating time of the currently viewed program (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10); and

- automatically displaying next program information when the time information reaches a preset terminating time (the examiner notes that when the remaining time reaches zero, the next broadcast program comes on. The examiner interprets this as automatically displaying next program information when a remaining program time

reaches a preset time), wherein said time information is displayed transiently for a

predetermined time when the user issues the display command and disappears after

said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is

displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have

expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display the time bar

until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two seconds

have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a

predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Referring to claim **35**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) on a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information

containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), the method comprising:

-   storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l.

    37-44 & Fig. 22A); and

-   displaying time information about a currently viewed program together with the

    currently viewed program (item 72)(Fig. 10) and next program information

    automatically at a preset terminating time of the currently viewed program (the

    examiner notes that when the remaining time reaches zero, the next broadcast

    program comes on. The examiner interprets this as automatically displaying next

    program information when a remaining program time reaches a preset time), the time

    information comprising a beginning time (S)(item 72)(Fig. 10) with respect to the

    currently viewed program, the program progress time including a current time

    (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10), wherein said time information is displayed

transiently for a predetermined time in response to a display command set by a user

and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the

time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two

seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display

the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two

seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar

transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Referring to claims **53, 55, 57-60**, Young discloses a display device/method which

displays program progress information of a current program (item 72)(Fig. 10), the display

device/method comprising:

- a receiver which receives the current program and at least one of a beginning time of

  the current program (S)(item 72)(Fig. 10) and a terminating time of the current

  program (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10);

- a display which displays the current program (Figs. 10, 22A), and the program

  progress information of the current program (item 72)(Fig. 10), wherein the program

  progress information includes the beginning time of the current program (S)(item

  72)(Fig. 10), a current time (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10), the terminating time of

  the current program (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10) and a progress bar indicating a progress

  time of the current program (item 72)(Fig. 10), wherein the beginning time of the

  current program, the current time, and the terminating time of the current program are

  displayed in a numerical format (the examiner interprets item 72 to be displayed in

  numerical format, since program progress is displayed as a fraction/percent of the bar

representing total program duration), and wherein the progress bar has a first end (S)

and a second end (F), and the beginning time is displayed in the numerical format at

the first end of the progress bar (end corresponding to empty bar) and the terminating

time is displayed in the numerical format at the second end of the progress bar (end

corresponding to full bar), and the progress time of the current program is displayed

on the progress bar between the first end and the second end (vertical line)(item

72)(Fig. 10), wherein the program progress information is displayed transiently for a

predetermined time in response to a display command set by a user and disappears

after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is

displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have

expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display the time bar

until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two seconds

have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a

predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Further referring to claims **57-60**, Young discloses that a type of the time information

corresponds to which of the beginning time, the current time and the terminating time is

displayed as the time information and the time information is displayed in a location relative to

the progress bar, such that the location depends on the type of the time information (start time S

is displayed at left-end of bar, finish time F is displayed at right-end of bar, and current time

(vertical line) is displayed at a position corresponding to current time in program)(item 72)(Fig.

10).

Referring to claims **54** and **56**, Young discloses the display device/method as claimed in

claims 53 and 55, respectively, further comprising a microprocessor to determine a remaining

time of the current program, and the remaining time is displayed as a first color (white)(item

72)(Fig. 10), wherein the progress time of the current program is displayed as a second color

(gray)(item 72)(Fig. 10) and wherein the first color and the second color are displayed on the

progress bar (item 72)(Fig. 10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

7.   Claims **1**, **5-12**, **61** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young

(of record) in view of Russo et al.

Referring to claim **1**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) on a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information

containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), comprising:

-     storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l.

      37-44 & Fig. 22A);

-     setting a command of the signal receiver which is commonly usable by a user as a

      display command to display time information about a currently viewed program

(program time information is displayed on demand for the user)(col. 10, l. 20-40 &

Fig. 10); and

- displaying, in a numerical format (the examiner interprets item 72 to be displayed in

  numerical format, since program progress is displayed as a fraction/percent of the bar

  representing total program duration), the time information about the currently viewed

  program together with the currently viewed program when the user issues the display

  command set in said setting a command (user uses a Select command for displaying

  the information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 11), the

  time information comprising a beginning time with respect to the currently viewed

  program, a program terminating time of the currently viewed program, and a current

  time with respect to the currently viewed program (item 72 is a percentage calibrated

  time bar, where S indicates a beginning time, F indicates a finishing time, and current

  time is indicated by a vertical line within the bar. Current time is additionally

  indicated in 62 as 11:00A)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10);

- displaying a display bar (item 72) representing a total program broadcasting time of

  the currently viewed program (Fig. 10); and

- automatically displaying next program information when a remaining program time

  reaches a preset time (the examiner notes that when the remaining time reaches zero,

  the next broadcast program comes on. The examiner interprets this as automatically

  displaying next program information when a remaining program time reaches a preset

  time), wherein the time information and the display bar are displayed transiently for a

  predetermined time when a user issues the display command set in said setting the

command and disappear after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner

notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11)

or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured

to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or

until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time

bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig.

11).

Young does not specifically disclose that the beginning time is below a left-most end of the

display bar, the program terminating time is below a right-most end of the display bar, and the

current time is below the display bar at a position corresponding to the program progress time.

Russo et al. discloses a graphical display bar indicating progress time of a video program

currently being received (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C). The width of the bar is fixed and indicative

of the program length, and is divided up into a left-hand already received and recorded portion

242 and a right-hand yet-to-be received and recorded portion 244, separated by a delineation 246

indicative of current time. Thus, as the program is received and recorded, the boundary 246 will

slowly move from left to right to convey to a viewer that a larger and larger percentage of the

incoming program is being stored. The examiner further notes that the begin time is displayed

with numerical characters below a left-most end of the display bar, the end time is displayed with

numerical characters below a right-most end of the display bar, and the current time is displayed

below the display bar at a position corresponding to the current time (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was

made to modify the time bar of Young to display beginning time in numerical characters below a

left-most end of the display bar, ending time in numerical characters below a right-most end of

the display bar, and current time in numerical characters below a position of the display bar

corresponding to the current time, such as that taught by Russo et al. in order to provide

convenient facilities to communicate playback progress and to mark points of interest to the user

(Russo et al. col. 2, l. 17-21).

Referring to claim **5**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of

displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 1, wherein the time information includes

the program progress time determined by subtracting the beginning time from the current time

(Young displays the progress time as a grayed portion of the bar between the current time and

the start time)(item 72)(Young Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **6**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of

displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 5, wherein the time information further

comprises the remaining program time determined by subtracting the current time from the

program terminating time (Young displays the remaining program time as a white portion of the

bar between the current time and the finish time)(item 72)(Young Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **7**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) on a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information

containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), comprising:

- storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l.

    37-44 & Fig. 22A);

- automatically displaying time information, in a numerical format (the examiner

    interprets item 72 to be displayed in numerical format, since program progress is

displayed as a fraction/percent of the bar representing total program duration), about a

currently viewed program on the signal receiver when a user issues a display

command (user uses a Select command for displaying the information)(col. 10, l. 20-

40 & Fig. 10) the time information including a beginning time with respect to the

currently viewed program, a program terminating time of the currently viewed

program, and a current time with respect to the currently viewed program (item 72 is

a percentage calibrated time bar, where S indicates a beginning time, F indicates a

finishing time, and current time is indicated by a vertical line within the bar. Current

time is additionally indicated in 62 as 11:00A)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10);

- displaying a display bar (item 72) representing a total program broadcasting time of

  the currently viewed program (Fig. 10); and

- automatically displaying next program information when a remaining program time

  reaches a preset time (the examiner notes that when the remaining time reaches zero,

  the next broadcast program comes on. The examiner interprets this as automatically

  displaying next program information when a remaining program time reaches a preset

  time), wherein the time information and display bar are displayed transiently for a

  predetermined time when the user issues the display command and disappear after

  said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is

  displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have

  expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display the time bar

  until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two seconds

have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Young does not specifically disclose that the beginning time is below a left-most end of the display bar, the program terminating time is below a right-most end of the display bar, and the current time is below the display bar at a position corresponding to the program progress time. Russo et al. discloses a graphical display bar indicating progress time of a video program currently being received (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C). The width of the bar is fixed and indicative of the program length, and is divided up into a left-hand already received and recorded portion 242 and a right-hand yet-to-be received and recorded portion 244, separated by a delineation 246 indicative of current time. Thus, as the program is received and recorded, the boundary 246 will slowly move from left to right to convey to a viewer that a larger and larger percentage of the incoming program is being stored. The examiner further notes that the begin time is displayed with numerical characters below a left-most end of the display bar, the end time is displayed with numerical characters below a right-most end of the display bar, and the current time is displayed below the display bar at a position corresponding to the current time (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the time bar of Young to display beginning time in numerical characters below a left-most end of the display bar, ending time in numerical characters below a right-most end of the display bar, and current time in numerical characters below a position of the display bar corresponding to the current time, such as that taught by Russo et al. in order to provide convenient facilities to communicate playback progress and to mark points of interest to the user (Russo et al. col. 2, l. 17-21).

Referring to claim **8**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 7, wherein the time information further comprises a percentage of the program progress time as compared with the total program broadcasting time calculated by subtracting the beginning time from the program terminating time (time bar is a percentage calibrated time bar and progressed time is displayed as a percentage of the total bar)(item 72)(Young col. 10, l. 27-35 & Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **9**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 8, wherein the time information further comprises a percentage of the remaining program time as compared with the total program broadcasting time (time bar is a percentage calibrated time bar and remaining time is displayed as a percentage of the total bar)(item 72)(Young col. 10, l. 27-35 & Fig. 10).

Referring to claim **10**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 1, wherein the commonly usable command of the signal receiver is a command for a channel up/down (items 136)(Young col. 8, l. 46-65; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 21).

Referring to claim **11**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 1, wherein the commonly usable command of the signal receiver is a command for a remote controller event (item 212)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Figs. 10, 22B).

Referring to claim **12**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time (item 72) on a signal receiver (Fig. 10) which receives and processes program guide information containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44), comprising:

- storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l. 37-44 & Fig. 22A);

- displaying time information, in a numerical format (the examiner interprets item 72 to be displayed in numerical format, since program progress is displayed as a fraction/percent of the bar representing total program duration), about a currently viewed program on the signal receiver when a user issues a display command set the time information (user uses a Select command for displaying the information)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10) including a beginning time with respect to the currently viewed program, a program terminating time of the currently viewed program, and a current time with respect to the currently viewed program;

- displaying a display bar representing a total program broadcasting time of the currently viewed program (item 72 is a percentage calibrated time bar, where S indicates a beginning time, F indicates a finishing time, and current time is indicated by a vertical line within the bar. Current time is additionally indicated in 62 as 11:00A)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10); and

- judging that the command for displaying the program progress time is issued by the user so as to automatically display the program progress time at a preset time set by the user prior to a program terminating time of the currently viewed program (user uses a Select command for displaying the information about the currently viewed program)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Fig. 10), wherein the time information and display bar are displayed transiently for a predetermined time when the user issues the display command and disappear after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner

notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11)

or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured

to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or

until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time

bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig.

11).

Young does not specifically disclose that the beginning time is below a left-most end of the

display bar, the program terminating time is below a right-most end of the display bar, and the

current time is below the display bar at a position corresponding to the program progress time.

Russo et al. discloses a graphical display bar indicating progress time of a video program

currently being received (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C). The width of the bar is fixed and indicative

of the program length, and is divided up into a left-hand already received and recorded portion

242 and a right-hand yet-to-be received and recorded portion 244, separated by a delineation 246

indicative of current time. Thus, as the program is received and recorded, the boundary 246 will

slowly move from left to right to convey to a viewer that a larger and larger percentage of the

incoming program is being stored. The examiner further notes that the begin time is displayed

with numerical characters below a left-most end of the display bar, the end time is displayed with

numerical characters below a right-most end of the display bar, and the current time is displayed

below the display bar at a position corresponding to the current time (col. 9, l. 32-51 & Fig. 2C).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was

made to modify the time bar of Young to display beginning time in numerical characters below a

left-most end of the display bar, ending time in numerical characters below a right-most end of

the display bar, and current time in numerical characters below a position of the display bar

corresponding to the current time, such as that taught by Russo et al. in order to provide

convenient facilities to communicate playback progress and to mark points of interest to the user

(Russo et al. col. 2, l. 17-21).

Referring to claim **61**, the combination of Young and Russo et al. teaches a method of

displaying a program progress time as claimed in claim 1, further comprising moving the current

time relative to the display bar according to the program progress time (elapsed time is indicated

by the percentage calibrated time bar)(item 72)(Fig. 10).

8.   Claims **21**, **22**, **28**, **30**, **31**, **34** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Young in view of Ellis et al.

Referring to claim **21**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) of a currently viewed program of a signal receiver (Fig. 10), the method comprising:

- receiving program guide information including a program schedule having the

  currently viewed program (col. 17, l. 37-44 & Figs. 10, 22A);

- displaying a program progress time including a current time (vertical line in time

  bar)(item 72)(Fig. 10) of the currently viewed program in response to a command

  from a user to perform a function other than displaying the program progress time

  upon receipt of the command (user uses a Select command or changes channels for

  displaying items 62, 70)(col. 8, l. 45-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10,

  11, 21); and

- automatically displaying next program information of a next program on a same channel as the currently viewed program (the examiner notes that when the remaining time reaches zero, the next broadcast program comes on. The examiner interprets this as automatically displaying next program information when a remaining program time reaches a preset time), wherein the program progress time is displayed transiently for a predetermined time in response to the command from the user and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Young does not specifically disclose that next program information is displayed at a preset time prior to the program termination of the currently viewed program and that the next program information is displayed transiently for a predetermined time in response to the command from the user and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed. Ellis et al. discloses a program BROWSE mode that displays an overlay portion 111 describing the program currently playing on the current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8). Ellis et al. further discloses that, while viewing the program schedule information for a currently viewed program, the user can press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule information for the channel currently being viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). Ellis et al. further discloses that the user may exit the BROWSE mode by depressing the MODE key twice (col. 13, l. 6-11). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to

modify to the program notes display of Young to allow a user to view program notes about the

next program on the channel, and to allow the user to move between program notes about the

currently viewed program and the next program until the user exits the mode, such as that taught

by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program

currently appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56). Ellis et al. further

discloses that the user may set a REMINDER message to remind the viewer about the future

program at a predetermined time before the start of the future program (col. 13, l. 54-67; col. 14,

l. 1-26; & Figs. 9A, 9B). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time that the invention was made to modify the program notes display of Young to display a

reminder about an upcoming program on the same channel, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in

order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently

appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

     Referring to claim **22**, Young discloses the method as claimed in claim 17, further

comprising:

- generating a setup display (item 62)(col. 10, l. 27-40 & Figs. 10, 11) for the user to

    designate ones of a plurality of commands to function as the command to perform the

    function other than displaying the program progress time upon receipt of the

    command, wherein the plurality of commands further comprises displaying the

    program progress time at the preset time prior to a program termination of the

    currently viewed program (title note 62 is displayed. If user presses Select, notes are

displayed. User presses Select command out of plurality of remote control

commands)(Fig. 21); and

- receiving inputs from the user designating whether the ones of the plurality of

   commands are to function as the command to perform the function other than

   displaying the program progress time upon receipt of the command (col. 10, l. 27-40

   & Figs. 11, 21).

Young does not specifically disclose that the user provide a command at the setup menu for

displaying next program information on a same channel as the currently viewed program at the

preset time and displaying the next program information at the preset time if the first and the

another commands are set by the user positively. Ellis et al. discloses a program BROWSE

mode that displays an overlay portion 111 describing the program currently playing on the

current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8). Ellis et al. further discloses that, while viewing

the program schedule information for a currently viewed program, the user can press a right

direction arrow to display future program schedule information for the channel currently being

viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time that the invention was made to modify the program notes display of Young to

allow the user to press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule information for

the channel currently being viewed, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to

create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television

receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

   Referring to claim **28**, Young discloses a device for displaying a program progress time

(item 72)(Fig. 10), comprising:

- a receiving unit to receive a program and a program guide containing a program schedule which includes information on a TV program (col. 17, l. 37-44 & Figs. 10, 22A);

- a processor to produce data for displaying the program progress time transiently for a predetermined time in response to a command from a user and video output unit to mix video data of the program and said data for displaying the program progress time of the program, to output a resulting signal (user uses a Select command or changes channels for displaying items 62, 70)(col. 8, l. 45-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 11, 21); and

- a display to display the resulting signal automatically at a preset remaining time of the program, the program progress time including a program beginning time of the TV program and a current time (Fig. 10).

Young does not specifically disclose that next program information is displayed at a preset time prior to the program termination of the currently viewed program. Ellis et al. discloses a program BROWSE mode that displays an overlay portion 111 describing the program currently playing on the current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8). Ellis et al. further discloses that, while viewing the program schedule information for a currently viewed program, the user can press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule information for the channel currently being viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify to the program notes display of Young to allow a user to view program notes about the next program on the channel, and to allow the user to move between program notes about the currently viewed program and

the next program until the user exits the mode, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow

a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a

television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56). Ellis et al. further discloses that the user may set

a REMINDER message to remind the viewer about the future program at a predetermined time

before the start of the future program (col. 13, l. 54-67; col. 14, l. 1-26; & Figs. 9A, 9B). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was

made to modify the program notes display of Young to display a reminder about an upcoming

program on the same channel, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create

a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television receiver

(Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

Referring to claim **30**, Young discloses a device for displaying a program progress time

(item 72) the program progress time including a current time (Fig. 10), comprising:

- a receiving unit to receive a TV program and a TV program guide containing a

    program schedule which includes information on the TV program (col. 17, l. 37-44 &

    Figs. 10, 22A);

- a user interface to enable entry of a command from a user requesting display of the

    program progress time (col. 10, l. 20-40 & Figs. 10, 11);

- an audio output unit to generate an audio signal of the TV program (col. 8, l. 64);

- a processor to produce On-Screen-Graphic data for displaying the program progress

    time transiently for a predetermined time in response to the command from the user

    and based upon the program schedule (user uses a Select command for displaying the

    information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40; & Figs. 10, 11);

- a video output unit to mix video data of the TV program and On-Screen-Graphic data of the TV program, to output a resulting signal; and

- a display to automatically display the resulting signal (Fig. 10).

Young does not specifically disclose that the processor produces ON-Screen Graphic data for displaying next program information of a next program on a same channel as the TV program at a preset time prior to a program termination of the TV program. Ellis et al. discloses a program BROWSE mode that displays an overlay portion 111 describing the program currently playing on the current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8). Ellis et al. further discloses that, while viewing the program schedule information for a currently viewed program, the user can press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule information for the channel currently being viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify to the program notes display of Young to allow a user to view program notes about the next program on the channel, and to allow the user to move between program notes about the currently viewed program and the next program until the user exits the mode, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56). Ellis et al. further discloses that the user may set a REMINDER message to remind the viewer about the future program at a predetermined time before the start of the future program (col. 13, l. 54-67; col. 14, l. 1-26; & Figs. 9A, 9B). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the program notes display of Young to display a reminder about an upcoming program on the same channel, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create

a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television receiver

(Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

Referring to claim **31**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) of a currently viewed program (Fig. 10) comprising:

- issuing a user-initiated display command (Select)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Figs. 10, 11);

- displaying a program terminating time (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10) of the currently viewed

    program and a current time (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10) in response to the display

    command automatically at a preset time set by the user prior to a program terminating

    time of the currently viewed program (at the time user presses Select), wherein the

    program progress time is displayed transiently for a predetermined time in response to

    the display command and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed (the

    examiner notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again

    (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system

    is configured to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select

    button again or until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as

    displaying the time bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27,

    l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Young does not specifically disclose displaying next program information automatically at the

preset time. Ellis et al. discloses a program BROWSE mode that displays an overlay portion 111

describing the program currently playing on the current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8).

Ellis et al. further discloses that, while viewing the program schedule information for a currently

viewed program, the user can press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule

information for the channel currently being viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify

to the program notes display of Young to allow a user to view program notes about the next

program on the channel, and to allow the user to move between program notes about the

currently viewed program and the next program until the user exits the mode, such as that taught

by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program

currently appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56). Ellis et al. further

discloses that the user may set a REMINDER message to remind the viewer about the future

program at a predetermined time before the start of the future program (col. 13, l. 54-67; col. 14,

l. 1-26; & Figs. 9A, 9B). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time that the invention was made to modify the program notes display of Young to display a

reminder about an upcoming program on the same channel, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in

order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently

appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

Referring to claim **34**, Young discloses a method of outputting a program progress time

(item 72) information to a display (Fig. 10), comprising:

- receiving program guide information containing a program schedule (col. 17, l. 37-44

  & Fig. 22A);

- storing the program guide information (to a schedule memory)(item 232)(col. 17, l.

  37-44 & Fig. 22A);

- outputting the program progress time information (item 72)(Fig. 10) about a currently

  viewed program together with the currently viewed program on the display when a

user issues a display command set (Select)(col. 10, l. 20-40 & Figs. 10, 11), the

program progress time information including a beginning time (S)(item 72)(Fig. 10),

a current time (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10), and a terminating time (F) of the

currently viewed program (item 72)(Fig. 10); and

- displaying the time information when the current time reaches a preset terminating

time of the currently viewed program (when the user presses Select), wherein said

time information is displayed transiently for a predetermined time when the user

issues the display command and disappears after said predetermined time has elapsed

(the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select

again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the

system is configured to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the

Select button again or until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as

displaying the time bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27,

l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Young does not specifically disclose displaying next information at the preset time. Ellis et al.

discloses a program BROWSE mode that displays an overlay portion 111 describing the program

currently playing on the current channel (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Figs. 7, 8). Ellis et al. further

discloses that, while viewing the program schedule information for a currently viewed program,

the user can press a right direction arrow to display future program schedule information for the

channel currently being viewed (col. 13, l. 19-30 & Fig. 8A). It would have been obvious to one

of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify to the program notes

display of Young to allow a user to view program notes about the next program on the channel,

and to allow the user to move between program notes about the currently viewed program and the next program until the user exits the mode, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56). Ellis et al. further discloses that the user may set a REMINDER message to remind the viewer about the future program at a predetermined time before the start of the future program (col. 13, l. 54-67; col. 14, l. 1-26; & Figs. 9A, 9B). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify the program notes display of Young to display a reminder about an upcoming program on the same channel, such as that taught by Ellis et al. in order to allow a user to create a viewing itinerary while still viewing a program currently appearing on a television receiver (Ellis et al. col. 1, l. 53-56).

9.   Claims **26, 27** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Sony Digital Satellite Receiver SAT-A1.

Referring to claim **26**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time (item 72) including a program beginning time (S)(item 72), a current time (vertical line)(item 72), and a program terminating time (F)(item 72) of a currently viewed program of a signal receiver (Fig. 10), the method comprising:

-   receiving program guide information including a program schedule having the currently viewed program (col. 17, l. 37-44 & Figs. 10, 22A);

-   displaying the program progress time of the currently viewed program simultaneously with the currently viewed program automatically at a preset time (user uses a Select

command for displaying the information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; & Fig. 10)

wherein said displaying the program progress time further comprises displaying the

beginning time at a start of a display bar (S)(item 72)(Fig. 10), the program

termination time at an end of the display bar (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10), and the current

time at a position of the display bar corresponding to a percentage of time elapsed

versus a total time of the currently viewed program (vertical line)(item 72)(Fig. 10),

and displaying a first percentage number of the time elapsed (gray part of bar) and a

second percentage number of a time remaining (white part of bar) versus the total

time of the currently viewed program, wherein the program progress time, first

percentage number, and second percentage number are displayed transiently for a

predetermined time when a user issues a display command set in said setting a

command and disappear after said predetermined time has elapsed (the examiner

notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses Select again (see Fig. 11)

or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That is, the system is configured

to display the time bar until the time at which a user presses the Select button again or

until two seconds have expired. The examiner interprets this as displaying the time

bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10, l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig.

11).

Furthermore, the technique of displaying a progressive time bar together with numerical

characters displaying the precise percentage amount indicated by the progressive bar is known in

the prior art. In fact, the Sony Digital Satellite Receiver SAT-A1 Operating Instructions

discloses a technique of displaying a status progress bar with numerical characters indicating the

percentage completed (8% here). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at

the time that the invention was made to modify the percent completed (gray part of bar) and

percent remaining (white part of bar) of the percentage calibrated time bar of Young to display

the precise percentages in numerical characters, such as that taught by Sony Digital Receiver

SAT-A1 in order to offer a more precise visual notification to users about progress made and

time remaining.

Referring to claim **27**, Young discloses a method of displaying a program progress time

(item 72) having a program beginning time (S)(item 72), a current time (vertical line)(item 72),

and a program terminating time (F)(item 72) of a currently viewed program of a signal receiver

(Fig. 10), the method comprising:

- receiving program guide information including a program schedule having the

  currently viewed program (col. 17, l. 37-44 & Figs. 10, 22A); and

- displaying the program progress time of the currently viewed program in response to

  a command from a user to perform a function other than displaying the program

  progress time upon receipt of the command (user uses a Select command or changes

  channels for displaying items 62, 70)(col. 8, l. 45-67; col. 9, l. 1-10; col. 10, l. 20-40;

  & Figs. 10, 11, 21) wherein said displaying the program progress time further

  comprises displaying the beginning time at a start of a display bar (S)(item 72)(Fig.

  10), the program termination time at end of the display bar (F)(item 72)(Fig. 10), and

  the current time at a position of the display bar corresponding to a percentage of time

  elapsed versus a total time of the currently viewed program (vertical line)(item

  72)(Fig. 10) and the command is to display the program progress time automatically

at a preset time prior to a program termination of the currently viewed program (user

uses a Select command for displaying the information)(col. 8, l. 66-67; col. 9, l. 1-10;

& Fig. 10), wherein the program progress time, a first percentage number, and a

second percentage number are displayed transiently for a predetermined time in

response to the command from the user and disappear after said predetermined time

has elapsed (the examiner notes that the time bar 72 is displayed until the user presses

Select again (see Fig. 11) or until two seconds have expired (col. 27, l. 34-38). That

is, the system is configured to display the time bar until the time at which a user

presses the Select button again or until two seconds have expired. The examiner

interprets this as displaying the time bar transiently for a predetermined time)(col. 10,

l. 20-40; col. 27, l. 34-38; & Fig. 11).

Furthermore, the technique of displaying a progressive time bar together with numerical

characters displaying the precise percentage amount indicated by the progressive bar is known in

the prior art. In fact, the Sony Digital Satellite Receiver SAT-A1 Operating Instructions

discloses a technique of displaying a status progress bar with numerical characters indicating the

percentage completed (8% here). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at

the time that the invention was made to modify the percent completed (gray part of bar) and

percent remaining (white part of bar) of the percentage calibrated time bar of Young to display

the precise percentages in numerical characters, such as that taught by Sony Digital Receiver

SAT-A1 in order to offer a more precise visual notification to users about progress made and

time remaining.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MICHAEL VAN HANDEL whose telephone number is (571)272-5968. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:30pm Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571-272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Van Handel/
Examiner, Art Unit 2424

8/03/2009